

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claim 1. (previously presented) A voice processing device built into a robot, said voice processing device comprising:

voice processing means for processing a voice input including extracting control pitch information or phonemics information; and

control means for controlling voice processing by said voice processing means, based on a state of said robot; wherein the state is determined by an action, an emotion state, and an instinct state of the robot;

wherein said emotion and instinct states are determined on the basis of values corresponding to a plurality of states of an emotion model and an instinct model, respectively; wherein the value corresponding to each state within the emotion model and within the instinct model are linked in a mutually stimulating manner and changed based on said control pitch information or said phonemics information;

wherein said voice processing means comprises voice recognizing means for recognizing the voice input;

and wherein said robot takes actions corresponding to a reliability of the voice recognition results output from said voice recognizing means, or the emotion state of said robot is changed based on said reliability.

Claim 2. (canceled)

Claim 3. (previously presented) The voice processing device according to Claim 1, wherein said voice processing means comprises voice synthesizing means for performing voice

synthesizing processing and outputting synthesized sound;

and wherein said control means control the voice synthesizing processing by said voice synthesizing means, based on the state of said robot.

Claim 4. (previously presented) The voice processing device according to Claim 3, wherein said control means control phonemics information and pitch information output by said voice synthesizing means.

Claim 5. (previously presented) The voice processing device according to Claim 3, wherein said control means control the speech speed or volume of synthesized sound output by said voice synthesizing means.

Claims 6-7. (canceled)

Claim 8. (previously presented) The voice processing device according to Claim 1, wherein said control means recognizes the action which said robot is taking, and controls voice processing by said voice processing means based on the load regarding that action.

Claim 9. (previously presented) The voice processing device according to Claim 8, wherein said robot takes actions corresponding to resources which can be appropriated to voice processing by said voice processing means.

Claim 10. (previously presented) A voice processing method for a voice processing

device built into a robot, said method comprising:

a voice processing step for processing a voice input including extracting control pitch information or phonemics information; and

a control step for controlling voice processing in said voice processing step, based on the state of said robot; wherein the state is determined by an action, an emotion state, and an instinct state of the robot;

wherein said emotion and instinct states are determined on the basis of values corresponding to a plurality of states of an emotion model and an instinct model, respectively; wherein the value corresponding to each state within the emotion model and within the instinct model are linked in a mutually stimulating manner and changed based on said control pitch information or said phonemics information;

wherein said voice processing step performs a voice recognizing step of recognizing the voice input;

and wherein said robot takes actions corresponding to a reliability of the voice recognition results output from said voice recognizing step, or the emotion state of said robot is changed based on said reliability.

Claim 11. (previously presented) A recording medium recording programs to be executed by a computer, for causing a robot to perform voice processing, said program comprising:

a voice processing step for processing a voice input including extracting control pitch information or phonemics information; and

a control step for controlling voice processing in said voice processing step, based

on the state of said robot; wherein the state is determined by an action, an emotion state, and an instinct state of the robot;

wherein said emotion and instinct states are determined on the basis of values corresponding to a plurality of states of an emotion model and an instinct model, respectively; wherein the value corresponding to each state within the emotion model and within the instinct model are linked in a mutually stimulating manner and changed based on said control pitch information or said phonemics information;

wherein said voice processing step performs a voice recognizing step of recognizing the voice input;

and wherein said robot takes actions corresponding to a reliability of the voice recognition results output from said voice recognizing step, or the emotion state of said robot is changed based on said reliability.